

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A tapping tool comprising:

an upper body having a first end engageable by a holding structure and a second end;

5 a lower body having a first end adjacent said second end of said upper body and a second end, said lower body freely rotatable with respect to said upper body, axially displaceable away from said upper body and force biased toward said upper body;

a tap chuck having a first end connected to said second end of said lower body and a second end for holding a tap.

2. The tapping tool as recited in claim 1 wherein said upper body further comprises:

5 a tube having a first open end having a first internal threaded surface, second open end having a second internal threaded surface;

a base cap having an upper projection for engagement by said holding structure and a lower threaded member for engagement with said first internal threaded surface of said tube;

10 a fitting having an upper threaded member for engagement with said second internal threaded surface of said tube;

a spring compression member having a first end having
an expanded head and a second end extending through said
15 fitting and connected to said lower housing; and

a spring located within said tube having a first end
urged toward said expanded head and a second end urged
toward said fitting.

3. The tapping tool as recited in claim 1 wherein
said tap chuck includes an upper projection extending into
said lower body and secured with a set screw extending into
said lower body through a set screw threaded opening.

4. The tapping tool as recited in claim 1 and further
comprising at least one handle attached to said lower body
to facilitate manual mechanical advantage to be applied in
turning said lower body.

5. The tapping tool as recited in claim 2 wherein
said spring further comprises a plurality of springs mounted
co-axially.

6. A tapping tool comprising:
an upper body having a first end engageable by a
holding structure and a second end;
a lower body having a first end adjacent said second

5 end of said upper body and a second end, said lower body
freely rotatable with respect to said upper body, axially
displaceable away from said upper body and force biased
toward said upper body;

10 a socket adapter having a first end connected to said
second end of said lower body and a second end for holding a
tap.

7. The tapping tool as recited in claim 6 wherein
said socket adapter further comprises body having a central
portion, an upper projection including a lateral flat
portion for facilitating the axially and rotationally
5 securing of said adapter by a force member, and a lower male
socket projection member having a lateral round projection.

8. An adapter for a tapping tool comprising:
a central portion, an upper projection including a
lateral flat portion for facilitating the axially and
rotationally securing of said adapter by a force member, and
5 a lower male socket projection member having a lateral round
projection.